

Guidelines

Program Features

The studio and living space: The Artist-in-Residence facility is primarily available for one artist at a time although two artists working collaboratively may be in residence together. The studio and living space are housed in a charming 1,100 square foot historic cottage, built in the mid 1800s and located on site at Weir Farm. The 400 square foot studio located on the second floor is equipped with a professional easel, several large and small tables, and a variety of hand tools. Printmakers and black and white photographers may utilize facilities off-site through a collaboration with the *Center for Contemporary Printmaking*. (A nominal fee will be charged by the Center.) The cottage is comfortably furnished with a fully equipped kitchen. Having a car is extremely helpful although it is not a necessity.

Spouses and significant others of participating artists are welcome to visit, but not to stay for the duration of the residency. Children and pets are not allowed.

Application Information

The Weir Farm Trust encourages advanced visual artists of all backgrounds to apply for admission. The Trust does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, age, gender, or sexual orientation.

Deadlines: The January 15th deadline applies to residencies requested from May through October. The July 15th deadline applies to residencies requested from November through April. Completed applications must be postmarked by these deadlines to be considered in these judging periods. Notification of results will be mailed six to eight weeks following the deadline.

Financial support: Artists will be given a monthly stipend of \$500 (prorated for less time) to offset the cost of food, travel, supplies or other related needs. (A collaborative team will receive one stipend.) Artists are responsible for their own personal living expenses, supplies, long distance telephone charges and for any other expenses relating to the cost of producing work that may be incurred while in the program. Travel and shipping expenses to and from Weir Farm are also the responsibility of the artist.

Selection: The selection of artists for residencies of two weeks to one month in length will be based on the quality of the work and the interest in working at Weir Farm. The program represents diverse artistic points of view, from traditional to experimental, with the emphasis on quality and consistency of each artist's work. Applicants may apply in any visual art form.

Work samples: Submit six, high quality, color slides in standard mounts of work no more than three years old. Number each slide and identify with your name, medium, size, date of completion and indication of top. Include three copies of a slide list with corresponding numbers and data.

Foreign applicants: U.S. Dollars are accepted for the application fee. You must send a bank draft or money order drawn on a U.S. bank. Please add sufficient funds for return of application materials.

Mail materials to: Weir Farm Trust, 735 Nod Hill Road, Wilton, CT 06897. Questions? Call (203) 761-9945.



Past resident artists: (l to r) Richard Lang Chandler (photo: Wendy Carlson), Sonja Hinrichsen and Jimmy Hagmeier, Martha Burgess, Ernest Lopez.

Application Materials

Your application must include the following:

- ♦ Non-refundable application fee of \$25 made payable to the Weir Farm Trust.
- ♦ 3 copies of application.
- ♦ 3 copies of work plan.
- ♦ 3 copies of current resume.
- ♦ 1 set of 6 slides (see description on left) with 3 copies of slide list.
- ♦ You may include copies of reviews, catalogues or other support materials.
- ♦ 2 letters of recommendation sent directly to the Weir Farm Trust by your references.
- ♦ Stamped, self-addressed postcard for notification of receipt of the application.
- ♦ Stamped, self-addressed envelope for return of slides and supporting materials.

Application Deadline (check one): January 15 ☐ July 15 ☐

Type of Application (check one): First Visit ☐ Re-Application for First Visit ☐ Return Visit ☐

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (h) _____

(w) _____

Preferred Visit Times: Indicate 1, 2, or 3 for preferred months. Specify length of stay (2 weeks to 1 month).

January 15 deadline: May____ June____ July____ August____ September____ October____

Dates/length of stay:_____

July 15 deadline: November____ December____ January____ February____ March____ April____

Dates/length of stay:_____

Work plans for a residency at Weir Farm: On a separate sheet, please describe the work you plan to do at Weir Farm and how this experience will augment your professional development. (200 words maximum)

Letters of Recommendation: Two letters of recommendation are required (unless you have previously been a resident artist at Weir Farm.) These letters must be sent directly to the Weir Farm Trust and should address your professional capacity and suitability for a residency. Please provide the names of these two individuals. *Application deadlines also apply to letters of recommendation.*

1. _____ 2. _____

Weir Farm National Historic Site Weir Farm Trust

Weir Farm, purchased in 1882 by the artist J. Alden Weir, occupies a prominent place within the history of American art. The Farm's rocky pastures and dense woods were a source of inspiration for some of Weir's best work, securing his role as a major and pioneering figure in the American Impressionist movement.

Museums across the country own numerous works of art that were created at the Farm by Weir and his wide circle of friends including Childe Hassam, Albert Pinkham Ryder, John Singer Sargent, and John Twachtman to name a few. The home, studio, farm buildings and landscape integral to Weir's artistic vision have survived intact, making it the finest remaining landscape of American Impressionism.

In 1990, following a 27-year preservation effort that joined environmentalists, artists, art historians, local, state and federal officials, Congress established Weir Farm National Historic Site. As Connecticut's first National Park Site and the only unit of the National Park System devoted to American painting, Weir Farm includes the 60-acre historic core located in the towns of Ridgefield and Wilton.

Recognizing the importance of preserving this rich artistic legacy, the Weir Farm Trust grew out of the grassroots efforts to save the Farm. As a private non-profit organization, the Trust has worked in partnership with the National Park Service to implement the long-range plan for development and preservation of the Farm's significant resources.

The Trust's mission is to promote awareness of the Farm's history and artistic tradition, facilitate its use by contemporary artists, provide educational opportunities, and preserve the Farm's unique environment. Through its innovative programs and activities, the Trust brings artists and audiences to Weir Farm and seeks to build community and financial support to help ensure its success as a cultural, educational and creative center.

Program support is provided, in part, by the National Park Service, Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism, JP Morgan Chase Bank, Adolph and Ruth Schnurmacher Foundation, and the Milton and Sally Avery Foundation.



Photograph: Weir Farm c. 1940, private collection.